SENATE BILL 2700

By Finney R.

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 67, Chapter 6, Part 3, relative to promoting the use of certain energy efficiency products in the household.

WHEREAS, Tennesseans consume an ever-increasing amount of electrical power; and WHEREAS, a major portion of electricity generated in this state is produced from coal; and

WHEREAS, coal mining pollutes many of the state's rivers, streams and waterways, systematically destroying aquatic life and impairing water quality; and

WHEREAS, the burning of coal and other fossil fuels emits massive quantities of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, including carbon dioxide; and

WHEREAS, the burning of coal also releases significant quantities of harmful heavy metals and radioactive elements into the atmosphere, including mercury, thorium and uranium; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's poor air quality threatens the health and longevity of the many Tennesseans who suffer chronic cardiac and respiratory conditions; and

WHEREAS, in order to promote energy conservation and to protect environmental quality, the state of Tennessee should encourage widespread utilization of energy efficient appliances and light bulbs; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-6-329(a), is amended by adding the following language as new, appropriately designated subdivisions:

(21) Household appliances awarded the ENERGY STAR label pursuant to the ENERGY STAR program administered by the U.S. Department of Energy and the

Environmental Protection Agency. As used in this subdivision (a)(21), the term "household appliances" means the following products when purchased by the consumer solely for household use: refrigerators, freezers, stoves, ovens, clothes washers, clothes dryers, dishwashers, central heating units, central air conditioners, space heaters, room air conditioners, and hot water heaters;

(22) Compact fluorescent lamps or compact fluorescent light bulbs when purchased by the consumer solely for household use;

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008, the public welfare requiring it.

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